IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Dong et al.

Serial No.: Not Assigned

Filed: July 14, 2003

For: System and Method for Data

Entry of Cluster Analysis

Group Art Unit: 2173

Examiner: Detwiler, Brian J.

Attorney Docket No.: AUS919990812US2

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By:

Krista Douthitt

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Applications Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

No fees are believed to be necessary. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is necessary, I authorize the Commissioner to charge the necessary extension fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Prior to continued examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page one, before the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION, please insert the following paragraph:

-- This application is a divisional of application number 09/584,593,

filed May 31, 2000, status pending, which is herein incorporated by reference.--